
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

May 9, 2018



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

END OF SESSION — SF 2165 — VICTIM COMPENSATION

Description. [Senate File 2165](#) concerns compensation payable under the Victim Compensation Program. The Act expands the qualifying circumstances for economic loss and amends the compensation limitations under Iowa Code section [915.86](#). [Senate File 2165](#) also allows a victim, secondary victim, or survivor of a deceased victim to be awarded additional compensation of up to \$5,000 per person under one of the following circumstances:

- The expenses were not eligible for compensation at the time the initial application for benefits was made.
- The qualifying person demonstrates an undue hardship, and the eligibility requirements and compensation limits at the time of application prevent compensation.
- The qualifying person incurs additional expenses from a “new event” that would otherwise be compensable but for the compensation limits.

Fiscal Impact. [Senate File 2165](#) has no fiscal impact on the State General Fund. The Act is estimated to increase Victim Compensation Fund expenditures by \$200,000 annually. Over the past six years, applicants have reached the compensation limitation on benefit categories a total of 1,452 times. It is uncertain how many claims for additional compensation will occur, but the cost is unlikely to have a substantial impact on the Fund.

Enactment Date. This Act was approved by the General Assembly on March 26, 2018, and signed by the Governor on April 11, 2018.

LSA Staff Contact: Laura Book (515.205.9275) laura.book@legis.iowa.gov

965756